

HEALTH POLICY UPDATE: November 28, 2022

Congressional Schedule:

- The Senate convenes at 3 p.m. Following leader remarks, the Senate will resume consideration of HR 8404. At 5:30 p.m., the Senate will vote on agreeing to the Schumer motion to invoke cloture on substitute amendment no. 6487 to HR 8404.
 - Bills:
 - HR 8404 — Respect for Marriage Act
- The House is not in session.

Health policy update:

- Drug pricing and Inflation Reduction Act-related items
 - Wall Street Journal (Opinion): Another Political Shot at Insulin - <https://www.wsj.com/articles/another-political-shot-at-insulin-senate-bill-cap-prices-susan-collins-jeanne-shaheen-11669157346>
 - MedPage Today (Opinion): Pharma Companies Abuse the Patent System, and Patients Pay the Price - https://www.medpagetoday.com/opinion/faustfiles/101881?xid=nl_mpt_DHE_2022-11-25&eun=g2129323d0r&utm_source=Sailthru&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Daily%20Headlines%20Evening%202022-11-25&utm_term=NL_Daily_DHE_dual-gmail-definition
 - MedCity News: Biden's New Executive Order Could Usher in an Era of Fair and Equitable Drug Pricing - https://medcitynews.com/2022/11/bidens-new-executive-order-could-usher-in-an-era-of-fair-and-equitable-drug-pricing/?utm_campaign=MCN%20Daily%20Top%20Stories&utm_medium=email&hsmi=235699983&hsenc=p2ANqtz-k_84wQs6iTfTYbq0is4RCiYp7HfpRKV-2wcKxqE7zGIS2L7U4qWNqyKXyZw2m3W50QzPnDsGIEpDFjIOk2cWe-jpeCQ&utm_content=235699983&utm_source=hs_email
 - Fierce Healthcare: Senator aims to cut biosimilar 'red tape' with proposal to eliminate interchangeable status - <https://www.fiercepharma.com/pharma/proposal-congress-would-eliminate-interchangeable-status-biosimilars>
- Nurse staffing

- New York Times (Opinion): How Would You Feel About a 100-Year-Old Doctor? - <https://www.nytimes.com/2022/11/28/opinion/doctors-aging-competency-test.html>
- Forbes: 60% Of Americans Have Had A Recent Bad Healthcare Experience, New Survey Shows - <https://www.forbes.com/sites/debgordon/2022/11/28/60-of-americans-have-had-a-recent-bad-healthcare-experience-new-survey-shows/?sh=85fb962adfae>
- McKights Senior Living: Senior living and care facilities turn away older adults 11K times in 1 month due to workforce crisis: survey - <https://www.mcknightsseniorliving.com/home/news/senior-living-and-care-facilities-turn-away-older-adults-11k-times-in-1-month-due-to-workforce-crisis-survey/>
- McKights Senior Living: With DONs in hot demand, providers act to broaden pipelines - <https://www.mckights.com/news/with-dons-in-hot-demand-providers-act-to-broaden-pipelines/>
- Organ donation and transplantation items
 - Still looking for House Oversight report
 - No new items
- Vision/dental care in Medicare-related items
 - No new items
- Physical rehabilitation
 - No new items
- Hospital and physician payment-related items
 - Bloomberg: Health Care Briefing: Surprise Medical Billing Disputes Pile Up - <https://www.bgov.com/next/news/RM21UFT1UM0X>
 - Bloomberg: Surprise Medical Billing Disputes Pile Up as Lawsuit Unfolds - <https://www.bgov.com/next/news/RM1ZNJDWX2PU>
 - Bloomberg: Senators Move to Bolster Care for Medicare-Medicaid Patients - <https://www.bgov.com/next/news/RLTLD3T0AFB5>
 - MedPage Today (Opinion): Our Biggest Health Insurance Concern Isn't What You Think - <https://www.medpagetoday.com/opinion/second-opinions/101892>

- Kaiser Health News: Readers and Tweeters Decry Medical Billing Errors, Price-Gouging, and Barriers to Benefits - <https://khn.org/news/article/letters-to-editor-november-2022-medical-billing-price-gouging-benefits/>
- Chief Healthcare Executive: Insurers say No Surprises Act helps millions, hospitals say aspects remain flawed - <https://www.chiefhealthcareexecutive.com/view/insurers-say-no-surprises-act-helps-millions-hospitals-say-aspects-remain-flawed>
- Nursing home quality initiative
 - Inside Health Policy: CMS Gives HCBS Sector Last Compliance Warning Ahead Of Deadline - <https://insidehealthpolicy.com/daily-news/cms-gives-hcbs-sector-last-compliance-warning-ahead-deadline>
- Health equity-related items
 - No new items
- Hospital merger news
 - Vox: Why it's so hard for rural hospitals to survive in America - <https://www.vox.com/policy-and-politics/2022/11/28/23424682/us-health-care-rural-hospital-closures-mergers>
 - Modern Healthcare: Sale of 2 Pipeline Health System hospitals in Illinois to proceed - https://www.modernhealthcare.com/mergers-acquisitions/pipeline-health-system-deal-sell-weiss-west-suburban-hospitals-illinois?utm_source=modern-healthcare-am&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=20221125&utm_content=article6-headline
- Telehealth news
 - Wall Street Journal: Telehealth Companies Lobby to Extend Pandemic-Era Rules - <https://www.wsj.com/articles/telehealth-companies-lobby-to-extend-pandemic-era-rules-11669320891>
 - Inside Health Policy: MedStar, Epic, Ascension: Telehealth Will Not Increase Costs For CMS - <https://insidehealthpolicy.com/daily-news/medstar-epic-ascension-telehealth-will-not-increase-costs-cms>
- 118th Congress and lame-duck news
 - Bloomberg: House Agenda for the Week of Nov. 28 - <https://www.bgov.com/next/news/RM20LXT1UM0W>

- Politico: Crunch time for Democrats is holding up bipartisan bill to protect pregnant workers - <https://subscriber.politicopro.com/article/2022/11/crunch-time-for-democrats-is-holding-up-bipartisan-bill-to-protect-pregnant-workers-00070734?source=email>
- Healthcare Dive: Sanders poised to lead Senate health committee - <https://www.healthcaredive.com/news/Bernie-Sanders-lead-senate-health-committee/637344/>
- ALS news
 - ALS News Today: Results of Phase 3 Trial of TUDCA in Slowing ALS Likely Next Year - <https://alsnewstoday.com/news/results-phase-3-trial-tudca-als-likely-next-year/>
 - Axios: ALS fundraiser gains momentum in Nashville - <https://www.axios.com/local/nashville/2022/11/28/als-fundraiser-nashville-vumc-livelikelou>